<u>REMARKS</u>

Claims remaining in the present patent application are numbered 1-29. The rejections and comments of the Examiner set forth in the Office Action dated May 26, 2004 have been carefully considered by the Applicants. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to consider and allow the remaining claims.

<u>35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection</u>

The present Office Action rejected Claims 1,2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 17, 19-21, 23, 24, 26, and 28 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanamaru et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,574,197) in view of Sturniolo et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,154,461). In addition, Claims 3, 6, 10, 15, 16, 18, 22, 25, and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanamaru et al. in view of Sturniolo et al., and further in view of Forslow (U.S. Patent No. 6,608,832). Also, Claims 8, 13, and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanamaru et al. in view of Sturniolo et al., and further in view of Engwer et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0193895).

Independent Claims 1, 11, and 20

Regarding independent Claims 1, 11, and 20, embodiments of the presently claimed invention disclose

methods of exchanging network information, as presently

claimed. In particular, independent Claims 1, 11, and 20

of the present invention recite, in part:

> [A] method of exchanging network information,
> comprising steps of:
>   a)   <u>at said AP,</u> automatically monitoring
> network status of said AP on a continual basis
> over said communication network, said AP coupled
> to said backbone network;
>   b)   automatically and dynamically generating
> network status information for said AP based upon
> step a); . . . and
>   <u>from said AP,</u> automatically sending said
> network status information for said AP to each of
> said plurality of clients when there is a change
> in said network status of said AP, said plurality
> of clients coupled wirelessly to said AP.
>   (Emphasis Added)

The claimed embodiments of Claim 1, 11, and 20 pertain

to methods of providing network connectivity and mobility

for a roaming client. The present invention as claimed

provides a method for an access point (AP) to send its own

connection and network status information to a plurality of

clients. More particularly, independent Claims 1, 11 and

20 of the present invention recite that <u>at the AP,</u> network

status of the AP is automatically monitored, and that <u>from

the AP,</u> network status information is automatically sent to

each of the plurality of clients when there is a change in

the network status of the AP.

Applicants respectfully note that the Kanamaru et al.

reference taken alone or in combination with the Sturniolo

et al. reference does not comprise nor suggest the present
invention as claimed in which a network status of an AP is
automatically monitored at the AP, and in which network
status information for the AP is sent from the AP to each
of a plurality of clients.

In contrast, the Kanamaru et al. reference discloses a
network monitoring device disposed at a node, a monitoring
node, that is used to monitor the network connectivity of a
remote, or neighboring node in the network. In addition, a
notification packet is broadcast from the monitoring node
informing all other nodes connected to the network of an
event at the remote node. That is, an independent
monitoring node monitors a remote node and broadcasts
information of that remote node to all other nodes in a
network. As such, the Kanamaru et al. reference does not
show nor suggest at the AP, automatically monitoring of
network status of the AP, nor does it show, the automatic
sending of network status information of the AP, from the
AP, to the plurality of clients coupled wirelessly to the
AP.

Furthermore, the Sturniolo et al. reference fails to
overcome the shortcomings of the Kanamaru et al. reference.
Specifically, the Sturniolo et al. reference fails to show
or suggest at the AP, automatic monitoring of network
status of the AP, nor does it show or suggest, the

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automatic sending of network status information of the AP, from the AP, to the plurality of clients coupled wirelessly to the AP.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the Kanamaru et al. reference taken alone or in combination with the Sturniolo et al. reference does not show nor suggest the method of the present invention as recited in independent Claims 1, 11, and 20. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claims 1, 11, and 20 overcome the cited references and are in a condition for allowance. As such, Claims 2-10 which depend on independent Claim 1 are also in a condition for allowance as being dependent on an allowable base claim. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 12-19 which depend on independent Claim 11 are also in a condition for allowance as being dependent on an allowable base claim. Also, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 21-29 which depend on independent Claim 20 are also in a condition for allowance as being dependent on an allowable base claim.

Dependent Claims
3, 6, 8, 10, 13, 15, 16, 18, 22, 25, 27 and 29

Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention as disclosed in dependent Claims 3, 6, 8, 10, 13, 15, 16, 18, 22, 25, 27 and 29 are not anticipated or rendered obvious by the Kanamaru et al. reference taken

alone or in combination with the Sturniolo et al., Forslow, and Engwer et al. references. Specifically, embodiments of the present invention as described in Claims 3, 6, 8, 10, 13, 15, 16, 18, 22, 25, 27 and 29 for analogous arguments set forth above with respect to independent Claims 1, 11, and 20, each describe a method that provides at the AP, automatically monitoring of network status of the AP, and the automatic sending of network status information of the AP, from the AP, to the plurality of clients coupled wirelessly to the AP, as recited in independent Claims 1, 11, and 20, which is not shown nor rendered obvious by the aforementioned prior art references. As such, dependent Claims 3, 6, 8, 10, 13, 15, 16, 18, 22, 25, 27 and 29 are in a condition for allowance as being dependent on respective allowable base claims 1, 11, and 20.

CONCLUSION

In light of the facts and arguments presented herein, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejected Claims.
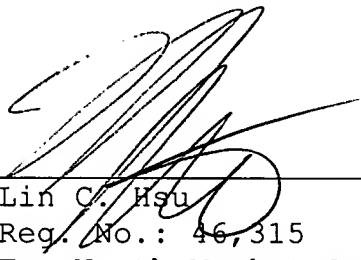
Based on the arguments presented above, Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 1-29 overcome the rejections of record. Therefore, Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of these Claims.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants'
undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such
action would expedite resolution of the present
Application.

Respectfully submitted,

Wagner, Murabito & Hao LLP

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Lin C. Hsu
Reg. No.: 46,315
Two North Market Street
Third Floor
San Jose, California 95113